

Minutes of the East Greenwich School Committee

Tuesday, May 3, 2016

Archie R. Cole Middle School Library

100 Cedar Avenue

East Greenwich, RI 02818

6:06 p.m. Executive Session, Mr. Plain made a motion to go into executive session for discussion and/or action regarding those items of business exempt from open meetings under Rhode Island General Laws §42-46-4 and §42-46-5 (a) (2) Teacher Negotiations, (a) (7) Investment of Public Funds with West Bay Collaborative. Mr. Fain seconded the motion, which passed 7-0.

Those in attendance were Ms. Carolyn Mark, Chair; Mrs. Mary Ellen Winters, Vice-Chair; Mr. David Osborne; Mr. Matt Plain; Mr. Michael Fain; Mr. Stuart Peterson, and Dr. Yan Sun. Mrs. Gail Wilcox, Director of Administration; and Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Student Services were also in attendance. Dr. Victor Mercurio, Superintendent; was absent.

7:00 p.m. Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

Ms. Mark called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

The meeting commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

III. Recognitions

a. National eCybermission Contest-EGHS students

EGHS students were recognized and congratulated for their placement as first and second winners for Rhode Island in the National eCybermission Contest.

IV. Public Comments

There were no public comments

V. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular and executive for April 26, 2016

On a motion by Mr. Plain, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the regular minutes. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Plain, the Committee voted 6-0 to approve the executive minutes. Mr. Peterson abstained.

VI. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Mercurio was absent.

VII. School Committee Concerns

Mr. Peterson discussed his conversation with Mrs. Vaughn regarding the lack of shade on the Frenchtown playground. Mr. Peterson contacted the construction department chair at NEIT to ask if there is an opportunity to receive a freestanding structure built by students in the construction program. There is a possibility that the district can be a benefactor of gazebos. Mr. Peterson plans to meet with the department chair next week. Mr. Wilmarth will be involved in this conversation.

VIII. Action Items

a. Appointments

1. Part-Time Custodian-EGHS-Edward Cleary

On a motion by Mr. Peterson, which was seconded by Mrs. Winters, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment.

2. Volunteer Assistant Coach Girls' Softball-Cole-Kevin DeTroia

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the appointment.

b. Field Trip-Senior Night at Six Flags-Agawam, MA-June 3-4, 2016

EGHS seniors Zachary Johnson and Yash Dhuri provided details on the proposed trip. Advisors Mrs. Page and Mr. Revkin were also present. The trip is scheduled for the last day of senior exams. The park will close for Senior Night and students' will be there from 8:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. The students' provided the rules/regulations of the park. Mrs. Page said that Mr. Podraza and Officer Branch have reviewed the details of the trip. Officer Branch contacted Six Flags and the local police department to inquire whether there have been issues during previous Senior Nights. No issues have been reported. The park uses their security officers and the local police department. It is mandatory that all students ride the bus to/from the park. No student vehicles are allowed. The total cost (including the ticket, meal, and transportation) is \$75.00 per student. One chaperone will be provided per 15 students. All chaperones will have BCI checks and will fill out the district's confidentiality agreement. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Fain, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the trip.

c. EGHS JV/Varsity Batting Cage – EGLL

Mr. Cobain, John Drolet, and Russ Marcantonio were present to discuss a proposal to add batting cages to EGHS or Cole. Mr. Cobain was approached by EGLL to discuss a donation, which would cover the cost of the batting cage. Mr. Cobain has discussed the structural and maintenance details with Cathy Bradley, Wayne Pimental, Bill Pagliarini, Mr. Osborne, and Dr. Mercurio. The town will not have to maintain the area of the cage. The plan is to work in phases to install the cages. Mr. Drolet discussed possible signage from sponsors, which has been discussed with the Policy Committee via Mr. Cobain. Ms. Mark wants to ensure signage is in line with district policy (i.e. signs for soda). Mr. Drolet has a sponsor lined up to pay for the doublewide cage (about \$7500). The donor's preference is Cole, but that will be discussed. Volunteers and EGLL will take care of the labor. EGLL will work with Mr. Cobain and the Booster Club to channel funds to support this project. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the project.

d. Bid Awards

1. Roof Cleaning Maintenance Contract-Furey Roofing

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Furey Roofing.

2. Licensed Electrician-B/Z Electric

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to B/Z Electric.

3. Licensed Plumber-Deltufo Plumbing

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne,

the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Deltufo Plumbing.

4. Carpet and Vinyl Flooring Replacement-Ruggieri Brothers, Inc.

Mr. Peterson questioned the prices for carpet removal and mats. Mr.

Wilmarth said the removal pricing is for demolition/wood floor removal. He noted the district does not purchase mats from Ruggieri.

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Ruggieri Brothers, Inc.

5. Fire Extinguisher Service-Allstate Fire Protection, Inc.

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Allstate Fire Protection, Inc.

6. Fire Alarm and Sprinkler System Testing and Inspection-Encore Fire Protection

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Encore Fire Protection.

7. HVAC Cleaning Maintenance Contract-Environmental Systems, Inc.

On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne, the Committee voted 7-0 to award the bid to Environmental Systems, Inc.

e. District Homework Study Committee

This item was tabled and will be discussed on May 17th.

f. Allocation of Fund Balance

Mrs. Wilcox provided fund balance activity as of FY2015 with

recommended set asides based on district policy #3410-Spending Policy and Minimum Fund Balance. The recommended set asides for School Improvement Capital Fund (at 80%) is \$36,082 and the set aside for Technology Improvement Fund (at 20%) is \$9,020 for a total of \$45,102. On a motion by Mrs. Winters, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted 7-0 to approve the recommended set asides as presented.

IX. Advisory/Subcommittee Update

a. Policy Committee

The Committee met last Monday. Field trips/pay to play was discussed. Mr. Plain and Attorney Oliverio are looking at existing policy and how it lines up with Attorney Oliverio's proposal. The district can seek advisory from the Commissioner. The policy for recognitions will be reconciled with the honor roll policy to provide consistency. This policy requires further vetting by Dr. Mercurio and principals'. The facility rental policy was also reviewed. There seems to be a disparity in fees charged to various groups and various restrictions for various groups. Input from Mr. Cobain, Mr. Wilmarth, and the various organizations are needed. Advertising on school property was also discussed. Mr. Cobain would like control over the look/feel of the signage. Legal counsel is reviewing rules/regulations regarding advertising. The Policy Committee meets again on May 9th.

b. Health and Wellness and Mental Health Subcommittee

Ms. Mark met today with the Health and Wellness Committee. The group is working to create a user-friendly document to make it easier

to understand what is allowed/not allowed based on the Health/Wellness Policy. The indoor recess toolkit is still being finalized. An FAQ page may also be created. The look of the school lunch program may be revised on the website. During the meeting, Mrs. Vaughn discussed the heat on the playground. There may be a grant that could assist with a solution. The Mental Health Committee met recently to discuss activities for May, which is Mental Health Awareness Month. A notice will go out on Friday's district list serving upcoming activities. Some possible activities include forums, mental health fair, daily twitter campaign, etc. Members of the Committee are still working on a teacher toolkit. A free yoga class is being offered to 25 students during a Wednesday advisory for 2 weeks, along with a raffle for teachers for a yoga class.

X. Policy: First Read New Policy

a. 2720 Video Cameras on Buses

Mr. Osborne discussed the impetus for this policy, which came from parental/public input. Ocean State Transit has the equipment already and is able to provide this service at no cost. This policy was developed in case the district chooses to use video cameras on buses. A second read will take place on May 17th.

XI. Discussion

a. FY2017 budget

The budget process is ongoing. One joint meeting has taken place with the Town Council. By charter, the Town needs to pass the town budget by May 15th.

The Town Council's next budget meeting is scheduled for May 9th.

Ms. Mark has been in contact with Mr. Coyle and Mr. Isaacs regarding the \$211,000 gap. Through conversations with the town and Alan Lord of WB, Ms. Mark asked the Committee if

another \$125,000 could be taken from WB (for a total of \$200,000) in a good faith effort to potentially leverage additional dollars from the town (\$86,000). The Committee was in consensus to take another \$125,000 from WB. Ms. Mark will convey the message to Mr. Isaacs.

b. Student Achievement

Ms. Mark has been nominated to serve on the RIASC executive board. Ms. Mark discussed “student achievement” and how another school committee keeps it as a standing agenda item. Mr. Osborne asked if it could be called “teaching/learning.” Dr. Mercurio could highlight various areas of learning/teaching and possibly invite teachers to speak about their achievements, concerns, etc. This item could also be highlighted in the Superintendent’s Field Memo.

c. Field Trips/Pay to Play; Next Steps

This was discussed during the Policy Committee update.

d. District/School Safety Team

This item was tabled and will be discussed on May 17th.

e. School Committee Resolution: Student Transportation Legislation Revisions

Mr. Plain suggested one revision in paragraph #5 to delete “any and all...that would permit districts”. This resolution will move forward for a vote on May 17th.

XII. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Osborne, which was seconded by Dr. Sun, the Committee voted to adjourn at 9:00 p.m.

**CHRISTINE DIMEGLIO
SECRETARY**